## **Introduced by Assembly Member Maze**

February 11, 2004

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 177—Relative to the University of California.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 177, as introduced, Maze. University of California: Cooperative Extension Program.

This measure would request the Regents of the University of California to make the continued funding of the Cooperative Extension Program a top priority for the university.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Cooperative Extension Program of the
- 2 University of California provides a direct link between the
- 3 university and rural counties; and
- 4 WHEREAS, In particular, the rural counties of the Central
- 5 Valley, which are internationally famous for their agricultural
- production, cannot afford to lose this vital program; and
- WHEREAS, The Cooperative Extension Program suffered a 25
- 8 percent funding reduction in the 2003–04 fiscal year; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Although much of the \$15,000,000 reduction was
- 10 taken out of program administration, the Cooperative Extension
- 11 Program cannot absorb any more cuts if it is to remain a viable
- 12 program providing essential services to many rural communities;
- 13 and

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 WHEREAS, The Cooperative Extension Program was developed in response to the needs of the many communities it serves, and its centers throughout California specialize in topics such as agronomy, consumer research, dairy science, pomology, viticulture, ornamental horticulture, weed control, postharvest technology, and livestock and natural resources, among many others; and

WHEREAS, The funding that allows the work of the Cooperative Extension Program to survive and thrive needs to be sustained in order to allow California's agricultural products to continue to meet the needs of the world; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California requests the Regents of the University of California to make the continued funding of the Cooperative Extension Program a top priority for the university; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to each member of the Regents of the University of California.